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ABSTRACT

This book provides a practical classroom guide to unlocking the treasures of informational texts. It also aims to demonstrate that reading and writing nonfiction can overcome the gender gap, allowing girls and boys to share interests in any subject from bugs and magnets to gardens and cake baking. It explains the use of a range of instructional strategies, including shared and guided reading and writing, to help students understand and use nonfiction material to answer questions about the world around them. For further help, included throughout the book are: teaching points; reading strategies; writing exercises; checklists, plans, reading logs, and other forms; and vignettes from teachers across the country to serve as real-life models. Chapters in the book are: (1) "Through a New Lens: Informational Text at the Heart of Reading Instruction"; (2) "Read Alouds: Celebrating Informational Texts"; (3) "Shared Reading: Big Books and Overheads on Deck"; (4) "Independent Reading with Informational Texts: Making It Personal"; (5) "Yes They Can! Emergent Readers and Informational Texts"; (6) "Supporting English Language Learners: Building Content Knowledge and Language"; (7) "Teaching Reading Skills with Informational Texts"; (8) "Where's the Door? Finding the Path Through Informational Texts"; (9) "Prereading Strategies: Building Understanding for Content and Vocabulary"; (10) "Taking Time to Wonder: Questioning Strategies to Build Comprehension"; (11) "Love Those Visuals: Photographs, Diagrams, Learning to Love Captions"; (12) "Text Features: It Isn't Just the Words"; (13) "Guided Reading with Informational Texts"; (14) "Multilevel Theme Sets: Differentiating Instruction"; (15) "Literature Circles with Informational Texts"; (16) "Move Over Guided Reading: Reciprocal Teaching Comes Back"; (17) "Modeled, Shared and Interactive Writing"; (18) "Guided Writing with Nonfiction"; (19) "Research Strategies"; and (20) "Investigations: These are So Cool!" Includes many reproducibles. Contains a 78-item bibliography. (NKA)

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